



DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

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DIA review completed.

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DATE: 9 October 1973  
TIME: 2130EDT

SUBJECT: Middle East Hostilities

10/0130Z

REFERENCE:

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GENERAL

the IDF reports having some 500 tanks "out of use" thus far, 100 in the Golan and 400 on the Egyptian front. "Out of use" includes any which cannot be returned to combat within one week. Details are not available regarding the armor battles on either the Syrian front or the Egyptian. It is not clear how many of the tanks have suffered combat damage rather than mechanical breakdowns, nor do we know what types of tanks are nonoperational. The IDF reports, however, that they are experiencing heavy losses to antitank missiles. A related problem is a developing shortage of 105-mm tank rounds. The nonoperational tanks likely are organic to the units which had been occupying the Sinai and were probably the first to be committed against the Egyptians. In any event, the loss of 500 tanks from an inventory of some 1,900 with a developing ammunition shortage of necessity will cause a heavier reliance on the air to assist in reducing the Egyptian force east of the Canal. With the Golan situation gradually coming under control and the apparent desire of the Egyptians to remain under the SAM umbrella, the IDF

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NSA review completed

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may be able to destroy those forces in a few days. Without that air support, due to the effectiveness of the Egyptian SAMs, particularly the SA-6s, an early end to the fighting is not in view.

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**SUEZ CANAL FRONT**

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(C/NFD) Israeli Maj Gen Yariv has stated that Israel has evacuated most of the Bar-Lev Line. Also, along the Canal, the UN Observation Post Copper has not been heard from since 6 October. The observers, including one Israeli liaison officer, were possibly killed or captured by the Egyptians.

**GOLAN HEIGHTS/SYRIAN FRONT**

(U) Israeli Maj Gen Yariv stated tonight that the Israeli Army has not yet broken the Syrian forces along the Golan Heights. While not giving specific numbers, he also said Israeli tanks are outnumbered in the area.

(U) Press reports out of Damascus state the Soviet Cultural Center, the Doctors' Association building, the Al Shark Hospital, and the Teachers Training Institute in that city were damaged or destroyed by

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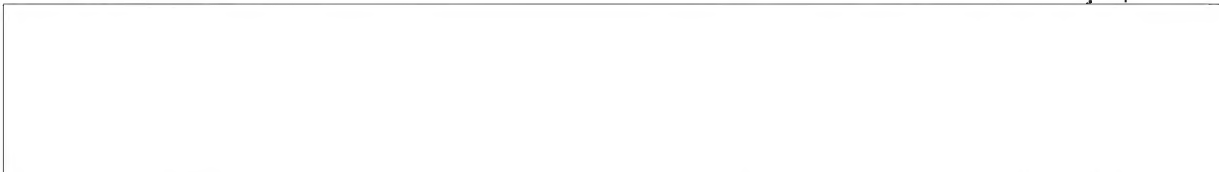
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**MIDDLE EAST HOSTILITIES - SITUATION REPORT #18**

Israeli air raids today. An oil refinery in Homs also was destroyed. Correspondents reported that the Damascus-Homs road was choked with tank transporters, ADA guns, and army trucks all heading south into the battle zone.

**OTHER ARAB ACTIVITY**

**IRAQ/EGYPT**



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**SAUDI ARABIA**

(S/NFD) Ten Saudi LIGHTNING jet fighters, armed with FIRESTREAK air-to-air missiles, are standing by to deploy. They would probably be moved to northwestern Saudi city of Tabuk.

**JORDAN**

(S/NFD) Syria asked Jordan to enter the battle by sending Jordanian forces north to the southern tip of Lake Tiberias to cut off that particular Israeli route to the Golan Heights. Jordan apparently responded negatively.

**LEBANON**

(S/NFD) The Lebanese Jabal Barouk radar station was destroyed today by Israeli aircraft. Nine Lebanese soldiers were wounded. Lebanese sources state the station had been inoperative for several months.

(C) Four or five Israeli half-tracks crossed into Lebanon at the Naqurah border post at 1100Z. They spent two hours in a futile search for fedayeen and then departed.

**SUDAN**

(C/NFD) President Nimeri stated that Sudanese troops had departed for Egypt. It is believed that one infantry battalion was airlifted to Cairo on 8 October for rear echelon duties.

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